

Private School Placement when FAPE is a Concern

In some cases, even though TCSS has made a free appropriate public education (FAPE) available to a student, the student's parent may decide to place the child in a private school or facility. When a parent believes FAPE is an issue and decides to enroll a student in a private school at public expense, the parent must notify school system personnel in writing at least 10 business days prior to removing the student or at an IEP meeting prior to removing the student. School system personnel must make a special education administrator aware of the situation as soon as possible.

Troup County School System is not required to pay for the cost of the education for the child at the private school. If the parent disagrees that an appropriate program has been provided, the parent may initiate due process hearing procedures. If an administrative law judge determines that FAPE was not provided in a timely manner prior to the student being placed in private school, TCSS could be required to pay reimbursement for the private school cost.

If a parent ever expresses concerns regarding the provision of FAPE, the special education service provider should contact a special education administrator promptly so that a meeting can be convened to resolve the parent's concerns.